

THANKS

to those who assisted in today's worship service:

Ministers	Acolytes
All the Members	Riley McLaren
Interim Pastor	Nick Voth
Rev. Dr. M. Jacob Kaufman	Prayers
Organist	Arnold Fletcher
Lavonne Bomeli	Ushers
Interim Choir Director	Owen Mooney, captain
Dale Wells	Valet
Public Address System	Jeff Zannetti
Bob Throop	Tally Team
Host	Barb Cunningham
Dave & Kathy Rembowski	Coffee Hour Hosts
Greeter	Joshua & Jessica Whitley
Barb Cunningham	Open & Close Church
Lay Liturgist	Tom McLaren
Lana Bellah	

HEARING ASSISTANCE

If you need hearing assistance, ask an usher about our Williams Sound System.

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. M. Jacob Kaufman

Director of Youth & Educational Ministries

Tracy Loomis

Church Office Manager

Karen J. Palevich

Chief Financial Officer

Carla Meier

Interim Choir Director

Dale Wells

Organist

Lavonne Bomeli

Learning House Director

Susan Arnould

Parish Visitor

Barb Benson

Christian Life Center Director

Karen J. Palevich

OPPORTUNITIES

for this week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10	9:15	Pastor Bible Study
<i>Net Return From Springhill</i>	10:30	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30	Venti Jesus - The Ring
	11:30	Fellowship
	2:00	Joseph Practice
	4:00	Davidson Basketball
	8:00	Men's Basketball
MONDAY, JANUARY 11	5:30	Upward Basketball Practice
	6:00	Upward Cheerleading Practice
	6:00	Building & Grounds Mtg.
	7:00	Spiritual Growth Meeting
	7:00	Scout Parent Mtg.
	7:00	Boy Scout Troop 368 Meeting
	7:00	Venture Crew Meeting
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12	10:00	Pastor Bible Study
	5:30	Upward Basketball Practice
	6:30	Upward Cheerleading Pract.
	6:30	Alcoholics Anonymous
	6:30	Youth Team Meeting
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13	9:00	Staff Retreat Office Closed
	10:00	Art Guild Meeting
	12:30	Church Office Open
	5:00	Administrative Board Meeting
	5:30	Upward Basketball Practice
	6:00	Team Leaders Meeting
	7:00	Seventh-day Adventists
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14	10:00	Toddlercise
	4:30	Confirmation Class
	5:30	Upward Basketball Practice
	6:00	Youth Choir Practice
	6:45	Bell Choir Practice
	7:30	Chancel Choir
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15	4:00	Music & Movement
	4:30	Dance Class
	5:30	Upward Basketball Practice
SATURDAY, JANUARY 16	9:00	Seventh-day Adventists
	7:00	Alcoholics Anonymous
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17	9:15	Pastor Bible Study
	10:30	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30	Venti Jesus - The Ring
	10:30	The Net Girl's Book Club
	11:30	Blood Pressure Screening
	11:30	Fellowship
	2:00	Joseph Practice
	4:00	Davidson Basketball
	6:00	The Net
	8:00	Men's Basketball

WELCOME!



The Baptism of Christ

(The First Sunday after Epiphany)



FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Morning Worship CELEBRATION

January 10, 2010

176 Years of Reaching Up in Faith - Reaching Out in Love

CALLS US TO WORSHIP

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Welcome

Greeting One Another in the Love of Christ

Prelude "The Lord is My Shepherd" arr. Wilda J. Auld

Hymn of Praise* "I Know Not How That Bethlehem's Babe" no. 169
(receive prayer request)

Call to Celebration*

One: Praise the Lord!
All: Praise your God, O Zion!
One: God declares God's word to God's people.
All: God showers love upon God's chosen!

Morning Prayer Together*

God of amazing love, in our own baptism you have welcomed each of us into your family. We praise you and thank you for your grace to us all. Guide our thinking about Your baptism which was so long ago. Open us to Your vision for us and Your church now, Your baptized people here. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

GOD INVITES US TO LISTEN

Moment With the Youth Pastor Jake

Hymn* "As With Gladness Men of Old" no. 168

Biblical Witness of Our Faith Isaiah 43:1-7, pg. 623
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22, pg. 891

Anthem "Think About His Love" Walt Harrah
Chancel Choir

Sermon "Baptism Makes a Difference!"
"...when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying,
the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit
descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove..." Luke 3:21b-22a

Some Time for Meditation and Prayer

GOD INVITES US TO SHARE AND TO SERVE

Opportunities for Ministry Stewardship

Dan Richardson

Our Offering Is One Way We Honor God and Demonstrate Our Love for Neighbor
(Please complete the attendance card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate)

Offertory "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go" Ruth E. Marsden

Prayer of Thanksgiving*

God our Creator, you have made all things and all things are yours. From the resources over which we are stewards, we bring to you our gifts. Let your blessing be upon our commitment to you. Let your blessings be upon the gifts we have brought. Make them effective in your kingdom, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Empowering Hymn* "Go Tell It on the Mountain" no. 160

Benediction*

Choral Benediction* "Go Ye Now in Peace" Chancel Choir

Postlude* "Menuet Gothique" from Suite Gothique Léon Boëllmann

The ecumenical Christian church patterns its life on a schedule called **The Church Year**. More will be in a future Congregator. Meanwhile, today many Christians (UCC, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Episcopal and numerous others) will worship around the theme of Jesus' baptism. Our worship this morning is centered on the theme, "What does Jesus' baptism mean to us?" The liturgical color for this Sunday is white (Christmas and the three Sundays following). White reminds us that baptism is a sacrament, so we use white at baptisms, as we do also for Holy Communion.

Please join us after worship for refreshments in the fellowship hall



PRAYERS & CONCERNS:

Please pray for Jack Anderson, Allen Gottschalk Dorothy Feeser, Helen Jewett, Bryan Merkel, Wilma Palmer and Claude Shinn.

Also, please remember to pray for all the families affected by war, oppression and senseless killing.

Ministries & Special EVENTS

PASTOR JAKE MOVES TO GRAND BLANC

Pastor Jake has moved into his residence in Grand Blanc. He can be reached at the following numbers: His permanent number (in Munith) 517-596-2275, his Grand Blanc number is 695-2507 and in an emergency call Karen in the office 695-0550.

WORSHIP FLOWERS

The new flower calendar will be up outside the Welcome Center soon. Please be sure to sign up as often as you like. Cost is \$10 per date and there are four spaces for each date. Flowers remain in the Sanctuary all week long.

OFFICE CLOSED WEDNESDAY MORNING

The staff will be holding a business retreat from the hours of 9:00 am to noon on Wednesday, January 13th. To accommodate this retreat the church staff will be unavailable during this time.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Jake is offering a new 6 week series Bible Study class on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM, beginning this week. The series is entitled "Unbinding the Gospel", books are available in the church office for \$18.00 each. Pastor Jake asks that you read the first two chapters before class on Tuesday.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be the last Sunday of January which is the 31st. The meeting will follow worship in the Fellowship Hall. A light luncheon and child care will be provided. The Annual Report will be available for preview beginning January 17th.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD NOMINATIONS

Mary Powers is still accepting nominations for the next Administrative Board. All nominations will be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting and will be voted on.

SUNDAY'S OFFERING

Offering total for last Sunday, January 3 is \$5,735.25.

OUR STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:

God's universal principle about giving is this:
Give willingly from the heart.

"...from all whose hearts prompt them to give you shall receive the offering for me." (Exodus 25:2)